

# The Polish Review

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## OVER BERLIN

by M. D.

Captain Pilot of the Polish Air Force

THE Bomber Command somewhere in England.

Our target: the Alexander Platz railroad station in Berlin!

A few final instructions about the course we are to set, the latest report on air conditions . . . some friendly hints to make the pilot familiar with the target.

Plane crews hurry to their appointed task in an atmosphere of buoyant expectancy. The pilot's faces are set in

an expression of determination and grave dignity. Their dreams have come true. Here at last is an opportunity to take revenge upon the Germans, revenge and something more. For every bomb that fell on Warsaw, for every bomb that burst over London, Belgrade, Rotterdam.

The hour of retribution is at hand. Now they must pay for unleashing their bloodthirsty Demon of War.

The navigator's quarters . . . Everywhere large maps of varying scale spread upon tables and walls. On one of the desks a big plan of Berlin. The pilots crowd round and study it, with a dangerous little flicker in their eyes.

All are intent on discussing the job, arguing, exchanging hints and indications. There is also

a lot of joking and leg-pulling. The true whimsical Polish spirit. The men have all shed their heavy tunics. It is hot and stuffy in their quarters.

—"That is the famous avenue 'Unter den Linden' . . . Here you see the Friedrichstrasse, and that big building there is Hitler's Chancery. Don't forget about the Thiergarten quarter . . . Be careful to choose your targets . . . Don't waste bombs."

A short rest, during which everybody gets his food parcel, a thermos with hot drinks, and . . . the climb into the planes.

They are still being carefully and lovingly tuned up by the trained mechanics . . . How gladly they would join the happy crew . . . Their thoughts will accompany the pilots on their daring flight over Germany, and may-be Poland.

The airfield looks rather gloomy. It seems lost in the grey mist of falling night. The formless shapes of big fighting planes and the monstrous bodies of bombers, ready to set out for Berlin, loom in the growing darkness.

Another extra supply of petrol and a full load of flares, incendiaries and "eggs" . . . the high explosive bombs. One could swear that the bodies



One more glance at the map before the flight

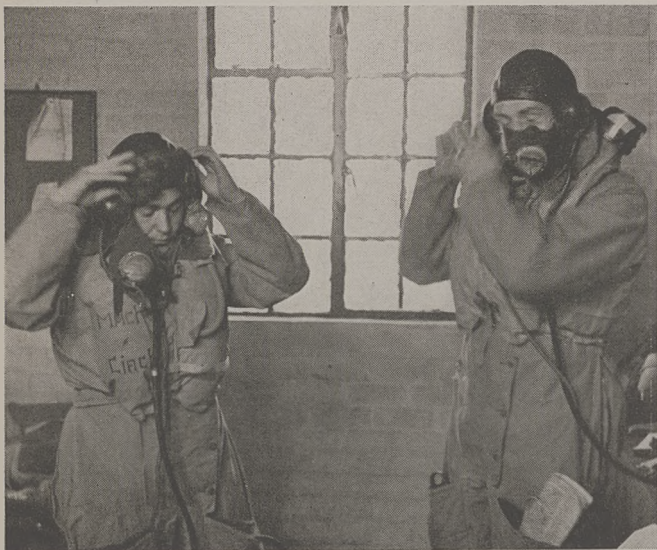




of the planes are swelling with pride and rejoice in the great adventure that lies before them.

The start . . . At last. . .

One after another they glide slowly away but with increasing speed and in a while soar into heaven and disappear in the darkness of the starless night.



. . . helmets with oxygen tubes and radio equipment

Nothing will hamper their flight . . . There will be no counterorders, no altering of direction, no obstacles, which could compel them to return to their bases from half-way.

This is no mean flight. Six hundred miles . . . And the enemy is waiting somewhere in the air. But all have such blind faith in the final victory of right and justice, all feel such a craving for vengeance for all the crimes committed, for all the wrongs done to innocent peoples. . .

Yes! today is a day of vengeance! We shall take our revenge, flying under the Polish flag, and we shall drop bombs right into the heart of Berlin. Polish pilots are good shots.

The flight over the North Sea is always a dull and monotonous business. Every crew knows the track trodden every day, and every night.

**F**OR their tigerish fighting and reckless bravery in combat the Poles flying in the Royal Air Force are becoming the legendary heroes of this war. Wherever airmen gather conversation is likely to shift around to some new exploits of a Polish flier. Invariably the story relates to a feat of flying skill or courage or vicious fighting and it is heard with relish.

The Poles not only are appreciated; they are pretty close to being adored. It is not only among the fliers that this attitude is to be found; it is noted in the other services and among people generally.

They have lost their families, homes, country; and all their capacity for love has become the channel of hatred for the agency of their destruction and dispersal. If they are reckless, what does it matter? Death is to them unimportant as long as in dying they are able to deal a blow at the cause of their tragedy. Their gallantry is the brave man's reaction to circumstances which would easily reduce other men to despair. Unlike Shakespeare's soldier they are uninterested in the bubble reputation, but they can and continuously do look into the mouths of enemy cannon without batting an eye.

Craigh Thompson (London)  
in The New York Times Magazine

The coast . . . Some "shouting" from the land below. A few searchlights nervously combing the sky. A little farther, red and pink geysers of fire, exploding at various heights.

Germany . . . At last . . .

The planes pass right into a hell of deafening noise. All anti-air guns seem to bark furiously at them . . . Hundreds of shells burst and split in the air, around the flying squadron.



Ammunition for machine guns





Putting on the Parachute

A devil dance of countless searchlights. The artillery fire increases all the time. The planes fly on amid spraying shrapnel and light cloudlets of shell bursts. Some searchlights become more and more pressing and importunate.

Inside the planes there is more light than at midday.

Ten minutes more . . . Five minutes . . . A plane makes a sudden swerve and calmly accepts the challenge of a night fighter. The members of the crew show no trace of excitement but their eyes are not good to behold. They are shooting accurately though not too heavily. Berlin is drowned in a complete black-out. It's better not to make too much noise . . .

Here we are!! . . . A large black blotch. The keen eyed pilots pick out the public gardens and the shining waters. We are over the heart of the city. Flares and then high explosive bombs fall like rain.

There is an angry barking of artillery fire. Hell in the air but a heavenly impression in the aviators' hearts. They have their job. Their dream has come true.

And now back to our bases.

Six hundred miles again . . . And Poland so nearby . . . Only a hundred miles! An hour's flight would suffice to see Poznan. A few minutes more and Warsaw would appear and all the dear ones

## POLAND'S AVENGING EAGLES

Official Record of One Years Fighting by the Polish Air Force in England:

from July 31, 1940 to July 31, 1941

Number of Raids — 184

Number of Planes — 886

The score of the Victorious Polish Pilots in German planes shot down—was:

Planes destroyed — 351

Probable — 87

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438

who are suffering, for whom we are craving, of whom we are dreaming.

The crew watches sadly the disappearing "neverland" of dreams. The young pilots clench their fists.

VENGEANCE WAS OURS DEAR HEARTS!!  
FOR YOUR SAKES . . . FOR YOUR SAKES . . .



. . . carefully and lovingly tuned up by the trained mechanics

# POLAND SPEAKS . . .

THE Polish nation was one of the first in Europe to proclaim the ideal of individual liberty and passed laws safeguarding it at the beginning of the XV century; in the XVI century it assured, by law, religious toleration and respect for all religious denominations.

Several centuries ago it entered into a voluntary union with Lithuania.

It contributed to the spreading of knowledge and learning through the ancient universities of Cracow and Wilno.

Its sons fought for the liberty of other peoples on many battlefields, in America, Italy, France and Belgium, in Hungary, Spain and Turkey.

After the world war, much of which was fought out on Polish lands, it set itself to rebuilding its economic social and cultural life. It is resisting oppression, for it believes that the invaders cannot destroy Poland's achievements during one thousand years of history.

The Germans have murdered thousands of scholars, social workers, artists, writers and priests. The Polish intellectuals and the best sons of the nation, women and children are being deported to German concentration camps and prisons, where they die a slow death.

The people are being systematically starved. The invader is ruthlessly driving hundreds of thousands of industrious people from their homes, robbing them of their lands and property. Without shelter and subsistence they face death or are deported for forced labour in Germany. Countless men, women and children have perished of hunger, cold and torture. The numbers of these nameless victims are unknown.

Ghettos are being established in Polish cities; the Jews are being walled up as in the darkest periods of the Middle Ages. People are being persecuted for their race and religion.

Simultaneously all traces of Polish culture are being destroyed. National monuments, seats of learning, museums and theatres, if they escaped destruction by bombs and shells, are being closed down, pillaged and demolished. Not even the churches have escaped the fury of the vandals. All high and secondary schools are closed, the printing of books is prohibited, and newspapers are suppressed.

The Polish nation is fighting to regain what has been taken from it by force and what it acquired twenty years ago by its own effort and by international law. Conscious of her responsibility to God and history, Poland will not and cannot surrender anything she justly owned. This inflexible determination to fight for freedom and justice has been attested by hundreds of thousands of those who defended every inch of the Polish State against the invader, and later joined the Polish Army in France. It was affirmed by the valiant Polish units who fought in Narvik and on the battlefields of France. It is affirmed today by Polish airmen, soldiers and sailors in Great Britain and in Africa. We are fighting on, for we believe in our victory. We believe that justice and morality will prevail over evil and violence.

WŁADYSŁAW RACZKIEWICZ  
President of Poland  
(from a London broadcast)



“THE unshakeable will of the overwhelming majority of the common people of Poland is to reconstruct an independent Polish Republic, based on principles of democracy, socialism and brotherhood of nations. There will be neither rest nor relief until this end is accomplished. We promise to use all our power and strength so that we may again see Poland amidst the free nations, so that we may strengthen forevermore the power of the common people in rebuilt Poland.

We congratulate the common people of Great Britain on their heroic struggle against fascism and for their freedom and ours. We salute all the oppressed peoples. We salute the workers of America, and particularly the Polish workers of the Western Hemisphere and we call upon them to do their utmost toward making the forces of freedom triumphant.

We express the hope that out of the endless

suffering a new world will emerge, a new world firmly based on freedom for all individuals and all nations, a new world firmly built on a new order of economic and social justice. Neither dictatorship and violence, nor oppression will evolve after the war, but the free union of the peoples of Europe, a new reality whose foundation will be the determination of the masses of workers and peasants to never again tolerate domination of violence, oppression and exploitation.

We are staunchly confident that in this war these forces will triumph and lead Europe and the rest of the world to a better and brighter future.

Long live Independent Poland! Long live the Government of workers and peasants! Long live Socialism! Long live the Brotherhood of Free Nations! . . .”

from a manifesto  
of the Polish Socialist Party



# FROM MORGES TO ARLINGTON

by Sylwin Strakacz

THE great majority of Poles have always looked upon Ignacy Paderewski as their spiritual leader, the personification of civil righteousness, the purest and most sublime symbol of patriotic devotion, love and service. From the Swiss abode of the great Pole, time and again came a warning voice, the voice of our national conscience.

Paderewski was heard whenever civic rights and liberties had to be defended: he demanded a return to democracy, popular control of the government, an honest foreign policy. He constantly warned the nation of the German menace, urging vigilance and preparedness to meet the danger that threatened.

What wonder then that when Hitler's barbarous attack was launched on Poland, when the government left the country, the eyes, hearts and hopes of all Poles were turned toward Paderewski. As it had been in the first world war, "Riond Bosson." Paderewski's home near Morges in Switzerland again became one of the centres of Poland's unswerving struggle for her life and rights.

With Paderewski's direct cooperation, with his counsel and consent, a new Polish government under the leadership of General Wladyslaw Sikorski was set up in Paris.

Paderewski maintained the closest possible contact with his old friend and collaborator, General Sikorski, taking an active part in all the work of the government. These ties became still closer when Paderewski assumed the presidency of the Polish National Council, to which he was unanimously elected. His arrival in Paris in February, 1940, brought him into personal contact with the Polish President Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz, and their cooperation ripened into friendship.

Paderewski's epoch making inaugural address to the Polish National Council in Paris, will ever remain a solemn definition of national policy, a Declaration of the Rights of the Polish Republic.

Then came the collapse of France. The heroic Polish army, left to its own resources, fought to the last.

Polish soldiers forced their way through the encircling lines of the enemy, reached ports or, like the second division of grenadiers, obeying orders, crossed into Switzerland.



THE LAST PICTURE

Paderewski making his last speech to Polish War Veterans at Oak Ridge, N. J., on June 22, 1941, five days before his death.

Thanks to the prompt action of General Sikorski the greater part of the Polish forces was evacuated to England and the Polish army is again fighting for freedom and right.

The war now entered a new phase. The war on land stopped at the shores of France, but the air attack on England now began with redoubled fury. Berlin boasted that Germany's numerical superiority in the air spelled the doom of Britain, but the Battle of Britain was won by the R.A.F. with which many Polish pilots fought. Later the Battle of the Atlantic began.

Paderewski saw clearly that the final victory of civilisation over barbarism depended on the United States—on whether it would throw its entire moral and material strength into the scale.

Paderewski was then almost eighty years old. His physical strength was greatly impaired, but his will was indomitable and his spirit the same as ever. To leave Switzerland at that time, under the conditions that prevailed in Europe, when railroad communication with Switzerland was interrupted, over a road that ran within a mile of the German outposts, to cross half of Europe by car through countries where the Gestapo held sway—seemed sheer madness. His closest friends, men holding highest office, tried to dissuade him from taking this great risk. The Swiss did everything

*(Continued on page 10)*



# The Poles in America

by Romanowski, Ph.D.

Professor of the University of Cracow

family, honorably known in many parts of the United States by its shortened name "Zabriskie."

Poles were not merely among the established settlements, they also adventurously explored the remote and uninhabited wilderness. In 1735, a Pole,

These and other pioneering achievements of Poles in the XVIIIth century, were the outcome of the interest the Polish people had long taken in the New World. Poland—in her old University Library at Cracow—houses the earliest globe of European make on which *America noviter reperta* fi-

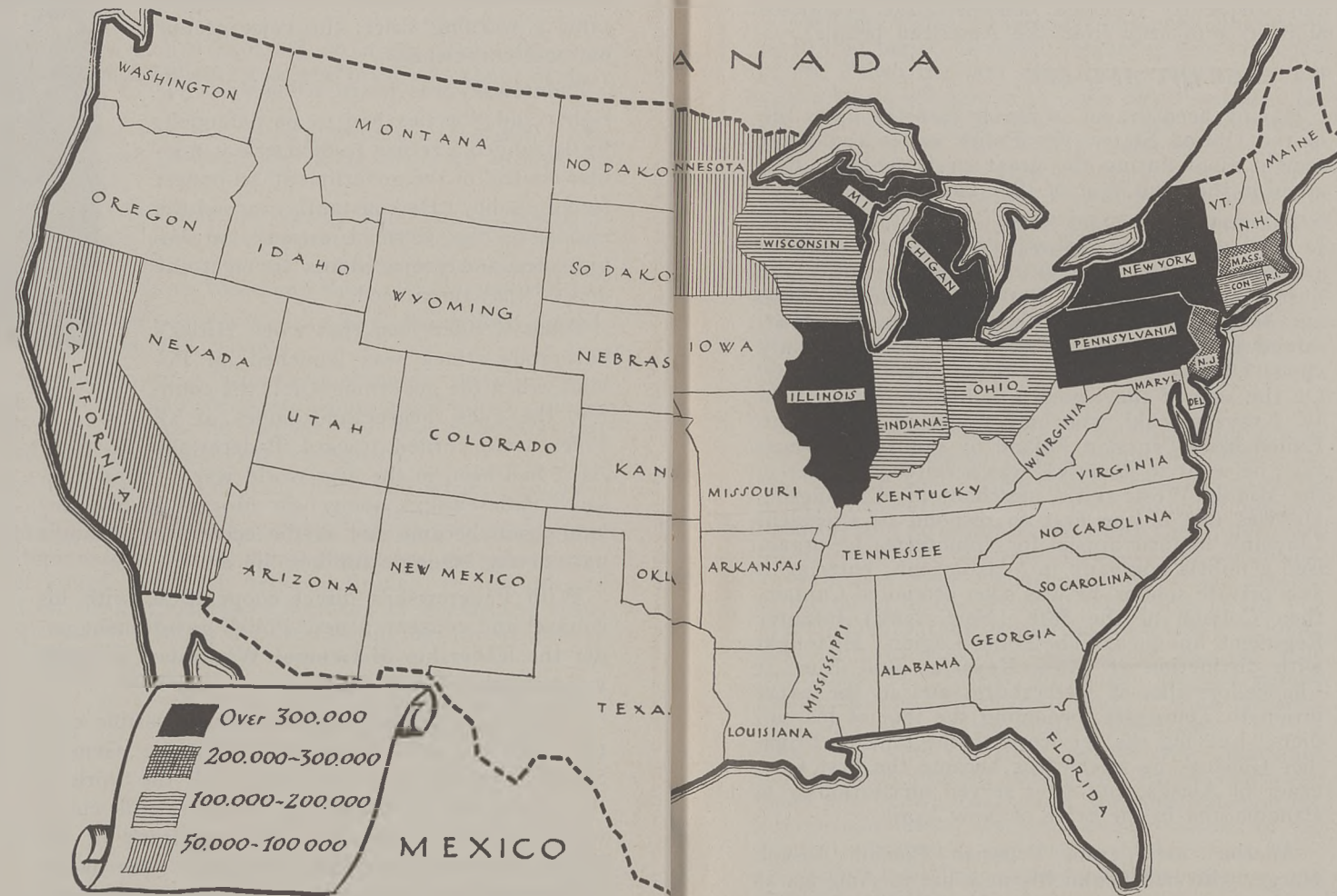
French Military schools, that Kosciuszko decided, in 1776, to carry his sword across the Atlantic and help the American colonies in their struggle for freedom, which was finding a sympathetic echo throughout Europe. His services to the cause of American independence are well known and have frequently been commemorated in oratory, literature and art.

Kosciuszko's name has never ceased to be honoured in America as well as in Poland; in the United States, it is commemorated not only by monuments in all the chief cities, but by several towns named after Kosciuszko. His name was also given to an island off the coast of Alaska, discovered several decades ago and recently explored by the Polish geographer S. Jarosz.

Side by side with Kosciuszko, both nations honour the memory of Casimir Pulaski (1748-1779), who gave his life for America's independence. Unlike Kosciuszko, he had his career as a leader of the Poles behind him and not before him when he came to America. For three years before the first partition of Poland, he had waged a dauntless guerrilla warfare against the Russian invaders. After four years of wanderings in exile, he offered his services to America through Benjamin Franklin in Paris, who sent him to Washington's headquarters. In the War of Independence, Pulaski won fame for the same intrepid courage in attack he had shown as a partisan leader in Poland. By his boldness he saved Washington's army at Brandywine and at Warren Tavern in 1777; and, at the head of a special detachment organised by himself — "Pulaski's Legion"—he marched, in 1779 into South Carolina, raised the impending siege of the town of Charleston and finally met a hero's death in leading French and American troops in the attack on Savannah, Georgia.

Kosciuszko and Pulaski were not the only Polish soldiers who distinguished themselves in America's War of Independence. Pulaski's Legion, included many other Polish volunteers, some of whom share with him the glory of heroic death in battle, and one of whom, M. Rogowski, survived to write memoirs of the Revolutionary War. Other interesting memoirs on the early years of America's new life of freedom were written by two exiled Polish poets, the brilliant satirist K. Wegierski (who visited America in 1784) and J. U. Niemcewicz, sometime aide-de-camp to Kosciuszko and afterwards a farmer in New Jersey, with his American wife Susanna Kean. In those early years of the United States' struggle for existence, services no less valuable than those of Polish soldiers, were rendered to America by the financial efforts of a rich Polish banker settled in Amsterdam (Holland), Peter Stadnicki, an early purchaser of United States bonds, who afterwards for a time became chief banker for the United States in Europe and, as one of the founders of "The Holland Land Company," laid

(Continued on next page)



John Anthony Sadowski, reached the Western outskirts of Ohio, anticipating systematic white colonisation there by a hundred years. The town of Sandusky, Ohio, commemorates his name. He himself afterwards lived in Virginia, where he was killed by the Indians. His sons, Jacob and Joseph, became companions of the famous Kentucky pioneer Daniel Boone. They assisted in the first survey of Kentucky, were the first white men to camp on the spot now occupied by the town of Cincinnati, Ohio, and founded the town of Harrodsburgh. One of them actually reached New Orleans, going down the Mississippi in a boat built by himself. At the same time the first map of the coast of New England, a map still admired for its accuracy, was produced by a Polish surveyor in the British service named Charles Blazkiewicz.

figures as a separate continent (a replica now adorns the "Polish room" in the University of Pittsburgh). Plans for founding a Polish colony in the Southern part of North America—to be called "New Poland"—were entertained by an XVIIIth century Polish statesman, T. Mostowski; but the first partition of Poland prevented the enterprise from maturing.

## HEROES OF TWO WORLDS

A Polish name, far greater than those hitherto mentioned, illumines both America's War of Independence and Poland's last stand against her despoilers. Not in vain is General Thaddeus Kosciuszko (1746-1817) known to fame as "the hero of two worlds"—the Old and the New.

It was as a young captain of the Polish Army, commissioned after graduation from Polish and

THE immigrant elements from Continental Europe that went to the making of the modern population of the United States, may be divided into two categories: an earlier one, driven from Europe by political persecution and representative of its intellectual elite, played an active part in building up XIXth century American civilisation; and a later category, mostly agricultural labour, that left Europe under the stress of dire poverty, to build railroads and provide unskilled labour to the mining and factory cities of America, making no other contribution to her creative achievements than sheer hard physical work.

The four and a half million Poles who live in compact masses in the working-class quarters of America's great industrial centres, are generally included wholesale in this second category.

Until recently, it was not realised by American opinion—nor even by the rank and file of the Polish-American element itself, that Poles figured prominently in the earlier immigration of chosen, liberty-loving spirits from among Europe's soldiers, politicians, intellectuals and artists, that Poland was not behind other nations in contributing its quota of creative effort to the fabric of modern America. It is to recent and painstaking research by a Polish-American scholar, M. Haiman, in Chicago, that we are indebted for a better knowledge of the part played by individual Poles in the political development and intellectual progress of the United States; and it is on his studies that we mainly rely for this brief survey of a little-known subject.

## POLES CAME IN 1608

Going back to the very beginnings of America's colonial history, we find that even the Pilgrim Fathers had their Polish predecessors on American soil in the shape of certain Polish artisans introduced by the English into Jamestown in 1608 and praised by Captain John Smith, the coloniser of Virginia, for their industry and their skill, especially in making pitch and tar for shipbuilding uses, as well as for their bravery in fighting the Indians. These "Polonians," were awarded the franchise of the colony by the Virginia Company of London in 1619, having organised a regular strike for the express purpose of obtaining political rights.

In the same early period, Polish farmers made their mark among Dutch settlers in what is now the State of New York, and the first secondary school founded in New Amsterdam (as New York was then called) was organised in 1659 by a Pole, Dr. Alexander Charles Curtius.

It was in the Dutch colony of Amsterdam also that another Polish settler, Albert Zaborowski, acquired wealth and authority in the middle of the XVIIIth century, becoming the owner of large tracts of land on the Passaic River in Northern New Jersey and gaining fame as a friend and protector of the Indians of the region. He founded a widespread



the foundation of agricultural settlement in the remoter parts of New York and Pennsylvania.

### **THOSE WHO FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM**

The next important contribution by Poles to the national life and culture of the United States arose out of Poland's armed uprising against her Russian oppressor in 1830-31. The brave efforts and ultimate failure of the Polish insurrectionists, elicited expressions of sympathy from all lovers of liberty among Western nations; nor were American voices wanting in that general chorus. A Polish-American Committee was organised in Paris by the joint efforts of James Fenimore Cooper, the eminent American writer, and Lafayette, America's French friend, who had fought side by side with Kosciuszko for American independence. An American doctor and philanthropist, Samuel G. Howe of Boston, who was to carry relief funds from the Committee into Poland, suffered long imprisonment in Germany for his noble attempt; another American doctor, Paul F. Eve, of Georgia, actually served with distinction in the Medical Corps of the Polish Army during the insurrectionary campaign.

After the disastrous failure of the insurrection, thousands of its soldiers sought a new home abroad, in Western Europe and in the United States. The American Congress granted them a whole township (six square miles of land) in the State of Illinois; but the exiles were too poor to reach and develop it. They were scattered through the towns of New England States, and it was here that many of them, with later arrivals from Poland, made their mark in the development of the different American communities that gave them hospitable shelter. Among them were A. Kurek, the composer, who was the first organiser of touring orchestras in America; J. Fontana, another composer who had been a friend of Chopin; H. Dmochowski-Sanders, a sculptor, whose bust of Pulaski adorns the Capitol in Washington; A. Zengteller and A. Raszewski, engravers; J. Podbielski, a translator of Polish works into English; and an even better-known translator, P. Sobolewski, the editor of a popular anthology entitled: *Poets and Poetry of Poland* (1881); H. Kalusowski, a well known doctor and philanthropist in Washington; K. Gzowski, founder of the city of Toronto in Canada and builder of the first bridge near Niagara Falls; L. Boeck, organiser of one of the first schools of engineering in America; Dr. F. Wierzbicki, known for a description of California, the first book printed in San Francisco (1849); A. Jakubowski, son of a distinguished Polish poet, himself a gifted writer of verse in Polish and English, whose early death was a great loss; finally, K. Kraitzir, a Hungarian by birth, but a volunteer soldier in the Polish insurrectionary war and author of *"The Poles in the United States"* (Philadelphia, 1837).

At the time when these exiles from Poland displayed their manifold intellectual and social activities, the territorial expansion of the United States towards the Far West was in full progress and Poles were among its pioneers. Both in the conquest

of Texas for the Union and in the Mexican War of 1846-8, Poles fought with distinction on the American side and some of them fell. One of the officers who had served against Mexico, K. Radzinski, also took an active part in the delimitation of the new frontiers. Another Pole, Truskolaski, did meritorious service as a surveyor of newly occupied territories both in Louisiana and in Utah.

In consequence of the individual achievements and services of Polish insurrectionary soldiers of 1831 in America, the forties were a time when the Polish element was well-known in the United States and frequently received demonstrative proofs of political sympathy from the American people.

### **WITH GRANT AND LEE**

Having been drawn so deeply into the inner life of the United States, the Polish exiles could not remain aloof during the great crisis which culminated in the Civil War of 1861-1865.

The number of Poles living in the United States at the time of the outbreak of the Civil War is estimated at some 30,000. The majority of them lived in the Northern States; accordingly, 4,000 out of the 5,000 Poles who fought in the War, served under the banner of the Union, and only about 1,000 in the ranks of the Confederate Army. On the side of the Union a Polish leader, General W. Krzyzanowski, won high rank and preferment. Exiled from Prussian Poland by political persecution, he went to America, was a railway builder in the Middle West, and a merchant in Washington. He was one of the first to respond to President Lincoln's historic appeal for volunteers; he organised a militia company in Washington; entering it as a private soldier, he was soon promoted Captain, then Colonel of the 58th (New York) Infantry Regiment, known as "The Polish Legion." He fought with distinction at Cross Keys, at Bull Run, at Chancellorsville, at Gettysburg, and in the expedition to Tennessee, becoming the idol of his soldiers. Leaving the service with the rank of Brigadier General, he afterwards became the first Governor of Alaska, and later served meritoriously in Panama and in the State of New York.

Another exile from Prussian Poland, Joseph Karge, who had begun his new life in America as a school teacher, became the Commander of a New Jersey Cavalry Regiment, and fought all through the war with distinction. On his return to civil life he earned popularity as a Professor of foreign languages and literature at Princeton University where he taught for nearly thirty years. The names of Krzyzanowski and Karge have their counterpart on the Confederate side in that of General K. Tochman, who organised and for a time commanded the "Polish Brigade of New Orleans." And in both Armies, many Poles laid down their lives for the cause in which they fought and sustained their country's reputation for heroic valor; some Polish women also earned praise for self-sacrificing heroism as Army nurses, particularly Sister Veronica Klimkiewicz, of the Sisterhood of Mercy, who rendered valuable services to the Union Army and lived on into honoured old age, to die in 1930 at Baltimore.

## UNSKILLED LABOR COMES

The sixties open up a new era in the history of European and particularly of Polish immigration into the United States. In places of the political exiles of former days, representing the intellectual elite of Europe and introducing valuable creative elements into many walks of American life, masses of unskilled made their appearance, coming largely from the rural districts of Southeastern Europe, largely Latin and Slav, and soon to be absorbed by America's rapidly growing industries.

The large Polish-American community, that grew up in that period, is rightly regarded as a mainstay of the Polish national cause. It earned this reputation by its willingness to make large sacrifices for its oppressed motherland. Another outstanding characteristic of the Polish community in the United States, is its attachment to Catholic tradition, a dominant feature of Poland's national life throughout history. The Polish peasant farmer, like the Irishman, is fervently devoted to the faith of his fathers. Roman Catholic priests, the people's most trusted advisers at home, became its first leaders and organisers abroad; and Roman Catholic parishes are the first and remain the fundamental units of Polish national organisation and instruction in America.

It was at the summons of an immigrant priest, Father L. Moczygeba, that a group of Polish peasant farmers from Upper Silesia went out to settle in Texas as early as 1854. They brought domestic furniture and farm implements with them; nor were the very bells of the local parish church forgotten as well as a huge wooden crucifix, to be planted in the midst of the primeval wilderness of the Far West. The journey across the American continent, still made by covered wagon, took months. The beginnings of the first settlement, piously named Panna Maria ("The Virgin Mary") were hard indeed, and many of the settlers succumbed. Yet all difficulties were overcome by the iron endurance of the sturdy peasant nature and Panna Maria became the centre of several thriving settlements, whose inhabitants, the sons and grandsons of the original immigrants, are well-to-do American farmers today, but cling closely to their religion and national traditions.

The Upper Silesian settlement in Texas was the forerunner of many others of a similar kind. But the majority of Polish emigrant peasants soon began to people the large industrial cities of New England, Pennsylvania and of the Middle West. In forty years from 50,000 in 1870, the number of Poles in the United States rose to 3,000,000 in 1910. The majority worked in factories and mines and only some 10 per cent, remained tillers of the soil. But a new growth of prosperous Polish farms has recently developed in some parts of New England, especially in the Connecticut valley, where once prosperous farms are passing from the hands of old colonial families into those of Polish owners, originally farm hands. And Polish artisans and tradesmen, with an increasing class of professional men, especially doctors, architects and lawyers, are

now fairly numerous in the large Polish districts of such cities as Chicago (which has three such districts with nearly half a million Polish inhabitants), Detroit (whose borough of Hamtramck is solidly Polish), Cleveland, Buffalo, Pittsburgh and Baltimore. In the South and in the West the Polish element is much less strong, though it is not entirely absent from any part of the United States.

## WORLD WAR NO. 1

As Poles fought bravely in the Civil War, they again distinguished themselves in the Spanish-American War of 1898. Several companies of the National Guard that are still in existence, were then composed entirely of Polish volunteers.

When the World War came and America associated herself with the Allied powers, Americans of Polish origin were foremost in offering their services to their country. Their contributions to Red Cross funds and to the Liberty Loans were out of all proportions to their numbers and to the wealth they possessed. Likewise their response to the call for men. Out of the first 100,000 volunteers who answered the summons of President Wilson, no fewer than 40,000 were Poles and it is on record that the first American soldier to die on the field of honor in France was a Pole. His name was Joseph J. Czajka of Milwaukee, Wis. Altogether, some 300,000 Poles served in the United States army in the last war.

Poland's hopes for political resurrection were bound up with the cause of the Western Allies. Paderewski, looked upon by millions of Americans as one of the world's great artists, gave a new voice to Polish aspirations. His popularity in the United States and his gift of oratory, were invaluable in the service of his country.

Coming to America in 1915, he campaigned on behalf of Poland, addressing countless meetings with never-flagging fire and magnificent mastery of speech. It was due to his efforts that the restoration of Poland became part of President Wilson's 14 points. He succeeded, by his personal magnetism, in creating a united Polish National Committee in Chicago in 1916, which, besides many other services to the cause of Poland, collected more than \$10,000,000 for Polish national aims from the Polish-American community. Paderewski, by his appeals to American Poles, caused some 25,000 men from the United States and Canada to join the ranks of the Polish Army in France which fought on the Allied side under the command of General Haller in the last stages of the World War. The services of the Polish-American community to the new Poland did not end with the restoration of Poland. American Poles were among the most generous subscribers of the first loan of the new Polish Republic and they gave unflagging assistance to their Motherland in all critical situations in which she found herself in the difficult early years of her new existence, right down to the disastrous floods in Southern Poland in the summer of 1934, which called forth a splendid outburst of Polish-American relief activity.

*(Continued bottom of page 12)*



# America's Last Tribute To Paderewski

Placed on an American gun carriage, covered with the flag of Poland, the great Leader is laid to rest with full military honours.



*(Continued from page 5)*

in their power to assure him that there, in their country he was exposed to no danger. But Paderewski never considered his personal safety when Poland called.

Paderewski left his home on September 23, 1940. With a presentiment that he might never return, he made his will, gave generous rewards to his faithful servants and ordered the house to be closed. The city of Morges, of which he was an honorary citizen, very handsomely offered to take care of the house during the absence of its owner.

France was crossed without incidents. But the Gestapo was watching. The Germans realized how dangerous to them, Paderewski's presence in the United States would be. On the third day of the journey through Spain the military police were waiting at the gates of Saragossa with pointed bayonets. Paderewski was taken under guard to police headquarters where he was informed that he must return at once to Barcelona. The negotiations for the release of Paderewski and his party lasted six days. Meanwhile the press in countries controlled by Germany had given out the news that Paderewski had abandoned his journey to America and decided to settle in Barcelona. Intervention by the Minister of Poland, the Ambassador of the United States, the British Ambassador and the Papal Nuncio were of no avail. Not until President Roosevelt had appealed personally to General Franco was the order given to allow Paderewski to proceed without further interference. On No-

vember 6, his eightieth birthday, Paderewski set foot on the free soil of America.

When, in 1915, Paderewski arrived in the United States, determined to secure the help of Polish-Americans and of the United States, his sole purpose was the restoration of Polish independence.

Arriving on September 6, 1940, Paderewski made a significant declaration to the American press. He characterized the war raging in Europe as a war between two world forces, between good and evil, between democracy and totalitarianism, between Christian civilization and barbarism. The rights of Poland, violated in this struggle, could be restored only by the final victory of good over evil. So this time he did not seek help for Poland, but help for Great Britain which he regarded as the stronghold and bulwark of civilization. He expressed this conviction in the slogan: Help Great Britain, Save the world.

The fact that he rose above national considerations, gave Paderewski's authority a new splendor. He represented not only the spirit of fighting Poland, but the spirit of all nations fighting for their freedom and for the right to independent existence. And so it came to pass that representatives of many nations turned to Paderewski for moral support and always found in him a champion of justice and right. The flags of all the oppressed nations floated above his coffin side by side with those of Poland and the United States.

*(Continued on next page)*





AT ARLINGTON

Yet in his work for humanity in general, Paderewski never forgot for a moment the cause of Poland. His many appeals to President Roosevelt, his three addresses to the Polish-American Council, his numerous broadcasts, his last address on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Association of the Polish Veterans in America, made but a week before his death, prove that Poland was ever nearest to Paderewski's heart. His prestige among Americans was so great that the United States Treasury asked him to broadcast on behalf of the sale of Defense Bonds. Millions of copies of this speech were afterwards circulated by the government and its closing slogan: "Stop Hitler before he masters the Atlantic"—was printed with Paderewski's signature in the form of an autograph.

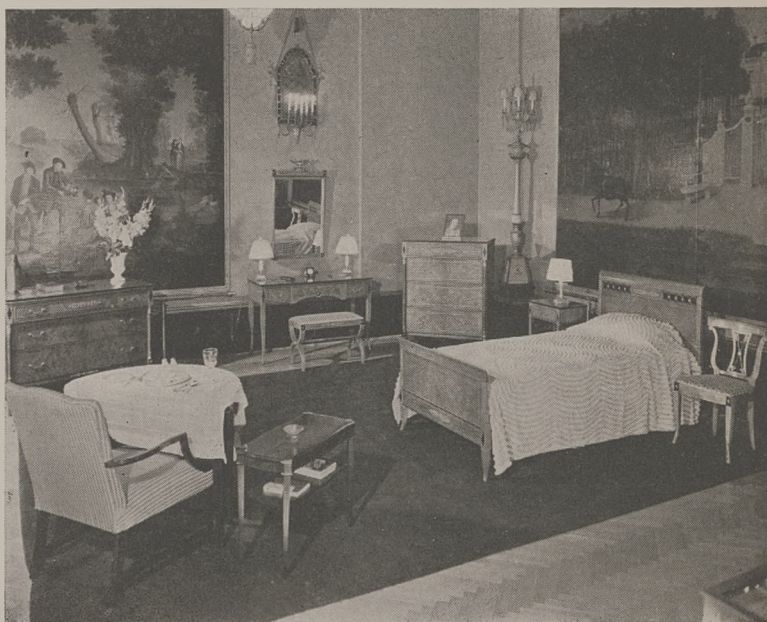
President Roosevelt truly interpreted the love and respect of the American people for Paderewski, by rendering full military honours to his mortal remains and placing his coffin, draped with the Polish flag, in the Arlington National Cemetery.

**Resolved:** *"That the House of Representatives of the United States of America has learned with profound sorrow of the death of Ignace Jan Paderewski, chairman of the National Council of the Republic of Poland, former President of the Council of Ministers of Poland and world renowned pianist; a foremost champion of freedom and democratic ideals, restorer of Polish independence, spiritual leader and champion of the oppressed.*

*"To the American People Mr. Paderewski stands as a symbol of liberty. He will take his place in history with Pulaski and Kosciuszko, other Polish patriots who aided us so nobly in our fight for freedom and liberty. His faith and courage will long remain in the hearts of Poland's sons.*

*"We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the millions of Poles throughout the world and especially to those in his native land who are once again in need of liberation. May his great spirit guide them and serve to give them hope for the future."*

Congressional Record, Volume 87, No. 127  
July 9, 1941



Hotel bedroom in which Paderewski spent his last days and died.



# FROM THE GHETTO

A letter from Poland recently received here offers a grim insight into Ghetto conditions prevailing in Poland.

"The Jews", the writer tells us, "are entitled to six pounds of bread monthly, just a little over 3 oz. a day. But the right to buy this small quantity of bread means nothing in reality, for we are never able to obtain it. For the past two months we have not seen a loaf of bread. No other food is available. We are actually starving.

"A 2 lb. loaf of bread costs 30 zloty (about \$5.50) on the illegal market, whereas the "official" bread—which we cannot obtain—costs only 10 cents for a 2 lb. loaf.

"Mr. X died of starvation. Every month more and more people are dying. An average of 300 people die daily in the Warsaw Ghetto, many of them of starvation."

The significance of these figures is appalling. 300 people died daily—100,000 dead in a year—20% of the total population of the Warsaw Ghetto! Every fifth Jew in Warsaw faces probable death within a year!

Despite this situation, the Jewish population has given rise to the underground movement of Jewish workers, which took over the work of the most influential Jewish organization of pre-war Poland, the General Jewish Workers' Union, immediately after the Nazis occupied Warsaw. This movement is founded on the firm faith that the future liberation of Jewish Labor in Poland is bound indissolubly with the liberation of Polish Labor. The illegal organization of Jewish workers therefore fights for Poland's independence side by side with the underground movement of the Polish masses.

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*(Continued from page 9)*

These manifestations of attachment to the "old country" as Americans of Polish origin generally call Poland, are cherished in Poland's national memory together with the historic proofs of active sympathy, which the new Poland has at various times received from the government and people of the United States, such as the heroic volunteer services of the "Kosciuszko Squadron" of U. S. airmen in the Polish-Bolshevik War of 1920; the post-war relief campaigns of the Hoover Mission,

These movements work for a genuinely democratic Poland, for political democracy, social justice, and equal opportunity for all.

A report of the leadership of the Jewish underground movement which was recently received here testifies eloquently to the aims of the movement. Its objectives and work are outlined as follows:

1. To encourage and train the Jewish masses to resistance against Nazi persecutions, the bitterest yet endured in Jewish history.
2. To spread among the Jewish masses information about resistance in Poland, outside the Ghetto, and in other occupied countries.
3. To implant and strengthen the conviction that though the Jewish masses suffer cruelly at the hands of the Nazis, they will yet see the day of Hitler's defeat and annihilation.

This is also the spirit of the Jewish underground press. It issues not only occasional leaflets and proclamations, but also regular periodicals in Yiddish, and, sometimes, in Polish. The Yiddish periodicals are "The Bulletin", a fortnightly, and "The Voice of Youth", a monthly. "For Our Freedom and Yours" is a periodical published in Polish. Jewish workers are also active in circulating the illegal publications of the Polish underground movement.

News from the Ghetto is scant and difficult to obtain, but two things emerge clearly: on the one hand—inhuman oppression, persecution, and starvation of the Jews; on the other—heroic effort on the part of the Jewish workers and their illegal organizations which continue the underground struggle.

the American Red Cross, the Society of Friends and other agencies; the expert help of Professor Kemmerer and Mr. Charles S. Dewey as Poland's financial advisers and the large American loan of 1927; last but not least, the humanitarian and educational activities of the American Y.M.C.A. among Polish soldiers in war-time, continued among the civilian population in time of peace and culminating in 1923, in the creation, with generous material assistance from America, of a "Polish Y.M.C.A."